

Just the Job

Information Sheet

Job title: Telecommunications technician

Job description

Telecommunications technicians perform a variety of tasks, including:

- examine equipment and systems to find and repair faults
- update and maintain existing equipment
- install telecommunications equipment, and connect it to networks
- test repaired, updated, or newly installed items
- assist with selecting sites for equipment
- carry out general administration duties.

Qualifications required

To become a telecommunications technician you must have completed the National Certificate in Telecommunications (Level 4). This can be achieved through doing an apprenticeship, which usually takes three years.

Employers may require telecommunications technicians to become registered electrical service technicians with the Electrical Workers Registration Board.

Secondary education

There are no specific secondary educational requirements for telecommunications technicians, but NCEA Level 1 in maths, English and science is recommended. Subjects with a focus on computers and electronics are also considered useful.

General requirements

Telecommunications technicians must have normal colour vision and steady hands.

Training costs

Training costs are set by training providers so you will need to check with them.

Career path

Once telecommunications technicians have completed their apprenticeship, they can specialise in areas such as radio, cable or services. They may also work for Internet service providers (ISPs), or progress to become telecommunications engineers.

Salary range

Telecommunications technicians with one to three years' experience usually earn \$30,000-\$35,000 per year.

Telecommunications technicians with more than three years' experience usually earn between \$35,000 and \$70,000 per year.

How to increase the chances of successfully entering this industry

Useful experience for telecommunications technicians includes:

- experience working with electronics
- engineering work
- computer work
- telecommunications work.

Personal requirements

Telecommunications technicians need to be:

- practical, quick and efficient
- accurate, with an eye for detail
- responsible, alert, and safety-conscious
- good at problem-solving
- good communicators
- able to work well on their own or as part of a team.

Other places to source information about this job

www.careers.govt.nz

<http://youthguarantee.net.nz/vocational-pathways/>

www.skills.org.nz